

2012 MTEA Conference Notes from Table Top Discussions

CDTP – Cooperative Driver Testing Program

- Are tests online? No, pick up at local exam station.
- Over 600 questions in MVD computer test bank.
- Random distribution of TELL written tests is necessary as opposed to having everyone take the same test
- How critical is the black ink vs. red ink on the scores on applications?
Majority of application needs to be done in black. Check to use the red ink on the form if they failed the written test.
- Has CDTP taken some of the load off the examiners? Yes. Also serves the needs of the students/parents in community.
- Plans are to roll out appointment schedules statewide.
- Options of which test to select when students register for testing.
- On road test scheduling, all students should be prepared to take the road test. Only 10% get tested.
- Questions about combining final test drive with state score sheet. Make sure the actual state form is used and that is the focus.
- Necessary to use the same route.
- Consistency with number of errors that can be made before failure.
- Who can sign the application? Parents or responsible adult.
- Does the instructor need to see the original birth certificate? No, but the student must present original birth certificate to examiner
- Traffic Educators can witness parent signature
- Better integration of computer forms with TE04 and TELL forms. Try OPI's Traffic Education Data and Reporting System TEDRS online.
- Students 16 or older to fuel vehicles per federal rules
- Students 16 or older can exchange the TELL for a learner's license, however, TEP cannot.
- Age of students taking the course matching 14.5 rule. Make sure they are 14.5 by the end of the course.
- General support for computer testing opposed to written test.
- Small number of instructors are giving the written test twice, which is okay.
- Must pass TELL knowledge test during time frame of class. If it is outside of that, date of 6 months then starts from scratch.
- How supportive is law enforcement in supporting GDL? Most of the time law does not know who is in the class.
- 6 months GDL Supervised Practice starts upon issuing the TEP.
- Schedule driving practice logs a valuable tool. Examiners will support asking students if they have their log.

ALL ABOUT BEHIND THE WHEEL

- Length of drives (30 minutes, 45 minutes)
- How many students in car (2, 3 or 1)
- Gas prices
- Van, car, trade types of vehicles
- Drive is 6 to 12 drives
- Cell phone use/texting. Phones put in trunk.
- After school or during school?
- Observation time
 - "It's my way or no highway."
 - Keep a journal of the drive, illegal activities
 - Back-seat bingo card – look for traffic signs. Rewards from Taco John.
- Behavior in the car
 - Bad behavior counts as a missed drive, absence
- Under the Influence of drugs/alcohol
- Who gives eye tests?
 - Does a student get to drive if they don't have their glasses?
- Clothing: discourage high heels, flip flops, steel toe shoes
- Energy drinks – Student not the day of a drive
- How schedule drives?
 - Signup
 - Assign drives and partners
 - Pick buddy
- Drives with a student alone – could ask parent to ride along
- Pick up students / drop off students
 - At home, school?
- Missed drive, excused/unexcused?
 - 1 BTW, charge of \$20 to make up
- Pass/fail BTW
- Sunglasses – wear or not?
- Observation time x 6 hours or x 12 hours x requirements
- Hair – one eye - hair tied back or can't see to drive
- Aggressive drivers, police, license plate
- How long keep BTW records? 5 years
- Last drive with a parent?

KEYS PARENT/TEEN HOMEWORK

BTW packet - Rural areas

What is done to exchange?

Do things in class, can't rely on home

General consensus: minimal or no homework. Essential work done in class.

Lessons with photos mostly used with KEYS.

PROMOTING YOUR PROGRAM

Elective high school credit
Winnett – Everyone takes driver's Ed
CDTP helps
Newspaper articles
Senior speakers
Media classes
Letters to the editor
Websites
Parent night – letters out
Safety posters
Value of program, highway patrol

BIG TOWN PROGRAMS

Butte: 3 classroom instructors, rest drive
A Group and B Group alternate drive and classroom

Positives:

- Variety of driving experiences/situation
- Variety of instructors
- Easy dealing with paperwork (others do it)
- Resources (officers, truckers, MDT)
- Roundabouts
- Numbers of students in class

Negatives

- Not family feel like smaller town

COMPUTERS IN CLASS

- Online, Moodle, Great Falls, curriculum
- Register online, tell what learned after each drive
- Edmodo.com: educational Facebook (free), assignments, narrative, looks and feels like Facebook, for teachers to communicate with students and parents.
- Access/availability
- Apps – Drivers Ed Site (Montana)
- MT. GOV website, Driver's License practice test
- iTunes, Search Driver Ed
- Computer Lab Carts, get and obtain websites
- The Most of Us interactive game
- The CoachO.com (YouTube use or blocked?)
- Ken Burns Effect (Bluebox in each picture)
- Remote clicker/laser

- I-Pad apps – traffic signs
- I-Phone – Drive Safe
- Photo story
- Frustrations: antiquated training

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Group 1

- Does it count where they go back?
- More focused and dedicated.
- Car parts have different terms.
- Not any different as far as teaching the skills.
- Don't allow exchange students if class is full? Legalities?
- Application process: who signs all the paperwork? "Responsible adult or guardian."
Passport is primary ID.

Group 2

- Most really want in because of how cheap it is.
- DMV hard to work with. Problems with licensing process (don't want to give foreigners license)
- Most know more than 2 languages
- May have to wait until second semester so they've had a chance to hone English skills
- European kids speak better English
- Controls on other side for some.
- Blend right in.

Group 3

- Good students
- License good in Europe? Some said yes, others no.
- Monetary incentives
- Application process
- Enrollment with limited slots
- Communication rarely an issue

Group 4

- Poor English (Japanese)
- More expensive overseas
- Don't drink and drive (Germany)
- Controls on other side
- When does "responsibility" end?
- Should host family refuse to sign app?

Group 5

- 6 mo. Time frame – go home first
- Some programs won't let them participate
- Asians – sometimes don't speak English as well
- Good kids, smart kids

- Communications can be an issue
- Older/more mature, more worldly
- Saves them a lot of money
- Enjoyable students, learn about other cultures

SCHEDULING ISSUES

- Morning classes – 6:45 to 8:00 am
- Lots of spring conflicts
- Rotate driving schedule
- Help with other teachers to work out schedule
- School year, picking session. Options for sports.
- Lack of instructors
- Not enough cars
- Sometimes no control over schedule; admin steps in
- Have a variety of times for drives to help
- Number of students make scheduling easier/harder
- Google calendar: 1st come, first serve for drives
- Kids can switch but have to let teacher know

REDUCING YOUNG DRIVER CRASHES

- Parents of victims
- Communications of violations (MHP and DMV)
- Parental responsibilities
- Signs (you have the right to report poor driving)
- Adjust TE-04 form date to extend 6 month GDL supervised practice for rule breaking
- How can we instill their mortality? Scare tactics are less effective than building skills to drive safely and competently – positive behaviors require positive reinforcement

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

- Billings – owns car with hand controls
- TE teachers unaware/not notified of students with IEPs
Request in parent meetings that parents provide IEPs
- Diabetes – on DMV app does not ask if it is under control, only asks if there was ever a blackout.
- Adapted Driver Manual – OPI website – need to use more often, use with all students
- Most of Us, Driver's Ed game

TE STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS

- Sunday drives – local school district option
- Parent Meetings required

- Overhead signs come off in high winds – two signs required
- Bring copy of birth certificate to parent meetings
- TELL permits can be printed from online TEDRS Student List
- Standards - vision screening
- 25 days required – schedule 28 days to allow for up to 3 absences before fail

PARENT MEETINGS

- Belgrade: 1st day. PowerPoint, expectations, attendance/tardy policy, week before the class, Mandatory, put on school website. GDL – time 1.5 hr., application
- Lambert: parent and student
- Shelby: 1st day, TEP license only
- Big Sandy: basic rules, parent and student
- Billings: Parent contact, 1st week for special needs, primary goal (can't read ...)
- Glasgow: 1st day parent meeting
- Helena: Register online
- Whitefish: No parent, no class
- Ekalaka: Curriculum standards
- Butte: Contact schedule, they pick their number to schedule driving time
- Missoula: Make-up class - no
- Joliet; Two week summer times
- Polson: mandatory meeting, \$20 fee drive makeup
- WSS: Before class begins
- Lewistown: Adult Ed instructor holds parent meeting

MEMORABLE MOMENTS WITH NOVICE DRIVERS

- Assumption of prior knowledge of driving skills – not accurate
- "Glass of water" (don't spill the instructor)
- Where do the kids live? Taking the kids home in wilds of MT and running out of gas.
- Hitting the wrong pedal, jumping the curb, and almost hitting the Big Sky Bar.
- City driving in Great Falls, wrecker thumbs up
- Kids following advanced directions, right turn instead of left
- Wrong way on interstate on-ramp
- Billings Drive w/traffic circles – 2 wheels!
- Orange Street merge left
- Student almost vomiting because of being nervous
- 99% pleasant, 1% sheer terror
- Yield sign in Miles City
- 1950 – no dual controls, no text book
- Simple to complex. Not highway on first drive.
- Student Drive cancelled on Saturday. On Wednesday, student died as own crash victim.

TRAFFIC ED VIDEOS

- Old videos
 - Some still working, copy to DVD? Could violate copyright
 - Information is good, clothing out of style
 - Liability
 - "We presented ..."
 - Some topics are out of date
 - Some vehicles can't be jumped safely
- Expense of films, astronomical
- Show slide shows –Use YouTube.com
 - "Texting while Driving" – Britain/England
 - Winter Driving"
 - Funny crashes" to lighten the mood
 - "Like a Bullet" or "Micheal Bullet" – OPI
- Is there a committee which has put together videos available through YouTube?
- Could libraries have control and schools could exchange? Videos not circulated or used much and TE video collection was outdated at UM-Western Library in Dillon
- Shorter videos used for Parent Night or for homework.

Off topic but useful: Rumble strips in center

Idaho Buckle up driving school uses Manitoba Driving Tips – link to 60-second videos

http://www.mpi.mb.ca/English/dr_tips/60sec.html